

(12) INTERNATIONAL APPLICATION PUBLISHED UNDER THE PATENT COOPERATION TREATY (PCT)

(19) World Intellectual Property Organization International Bureau



(43) International Publication Date
13 October 2005 (13.10.2005)

PCT

(10) International Publication Number
WO 2005/095835 A1

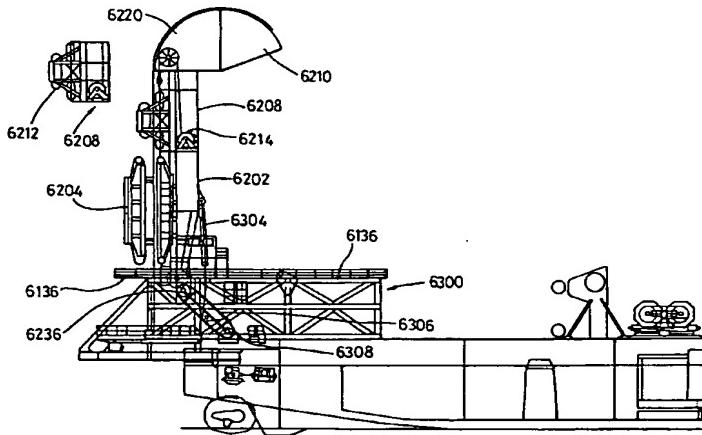
- (51) International Patent Classification⁷: **F16L 1/18**
- (21) International Application Number:
PCT/GB2005/001229
- (22) International Filing Date: 29 March 2005 (29.03.2005)
- (25) Filing Language: English
- (26) Publication Language: English
- (30) Priority Data:
0407143.7 30 March 2004 (30.03.2004) GB
0428316.4 24 December 2004 (24.12.2004) GB
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- (81) Designated States (*unless otherwise indicated, for every kind of national protection available*): AE, AG, AL, AM, AT, AU, AZ, BA, BB, BG, BR, BW, BY, BZ, CA, CH, CN, CO, CR, CU, CZ, DE, DK, DM, DZ, EC, EE, EG, ES, FI, GB, GD, GE, GH, GM, HR, HU, ID, IL, IN, IS, JP, KE, KG, KP, KR, KZ, LC, LK, LR, LS, LT, LU, LV, MA, MD, MG, MK, MN, MW, MX, MZ, NA, NI, NO, NZ, OM, PG, PH, PL, PT, RO, RU, SC, SD, SE, SG, SK, SL, SM, SY, TJ, TM, TN, TR, TT, TZ, UA, UG, US, UZ, VC, VN, YU, ZA, ZM, ZW.
- (84) Designated States (*unless otherwise indicated, for every kind of regional protection available*): ARIPO (BW, GH, GM, KE, LS, MW, MZ, NA, SD, SL, SZ, TZ, UG, ZM, ZW), Eurasian (AM, AZ, BY, KG, KZ, MD, RU, TJ, TM), European (AT, BE, BG, CH, CY, CZ, DE, DK, EE, ES, FI, FR, GB, GR, HU, IE, IS, IT, LT, LU, MC, NL, PL, PT, RO, SE, SI, SK, TR), OAPI (BF, BJ, CF, CG, CI, CM, GA, GN, GQ, GW, ML, MR, NE, SN, TD, TG).

Published:

- with international search report
- before the expiration of the time limit for amending the claims and to be republished in the event of receipt of amendments

[Continued on next page]

(54) Title: METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR LAYING ELONGATE ARTICLES



WO 2005/095835 A1

(57) Abstract: This application describes apparatus (200, 6200, 8200) for laying elongate articles from a vessel (100) at sea. The apparatus comprising tensioning means (204, 6204, 8204) for controlling paying out of said articles along an axis of said tensioning means, and a structure tiltable (202, 6202, 8202) between upright and horizontal states. The apparatus is operable in a first mode, wherein the tensioning means is carried by said structure with its axis at an elevated angle and said structure for example also carries a radius controller (220, 6220, 8220) and a straightener (212, 6212, 8212), and in a second mode wherein the tensioning means is arranged with its axis substantially horizontal. The tiltable structure may be detachable from the tensioning means in the second mode, so as to assist in transferring in-line accessories overboard. Alternatively a separate A-frame may be provided for that purpose. This allows the same apparatus to be adapted for laying rigid and flexible pipes at different times, and/or in different depth ranges.



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